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## Manager's Newsletter

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The Town of Kitty Hawk's newsletter is authored and prepared by the Town Manager's Office every other Friday and sent electronically to anyone who wants to receive it. Paper copies of the newsletter are available at Town Hall. The newsletter does not present or represent opinions of the Town Council.

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**Agenda Highlights for the Tuesday, July 6<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting**

- Recognize Sergeant Detective, Trey Piland, for 15 years of Service with the Town of Kitty Hawk.
- On the Consent Agenda is the proposal for vehicle towing services. Two proposals were received and it is recommended to accept the least expensive proposal from Seto's Towing and Service Center.
- Site plan review of the proposed Dare County public park. The proposed improvements include a fenced dog park, a skateboard park, a children's playground, a picnic pavilion, bathrooms, walking trails, and a parking lot.
- To discuss, under unfinished business, the contingency agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation in regards to the Storm Drainage Study. The town has been designated as a recipient, subject to availability of state funds, to receive up to \$25,000 for the study.

**Interacting With Foxes**

**We recently received some questions about foxes in the area. The following information may be useful for those persons interested in foxes:**

**Contact Between Foxes and Humans**

In general, despite the fact that urban foxes use human buildings for shelter and human refuse for food, their contact with humans is quite limited. Most people who live in an urban area have never seen a fox in the city. Foxes keep a nocturnal schedule, and in the nighttime are often mistaken for dogs when they are seen. They also move their dens around frequently, which may help minimize contact with people.

In England, people have reported losing pets to fox predation, most often kittens or other small animals left outside in an exposed yard. In the United States, fox predation on pets undoubtedly occurs, but is probably overshadowed by coyote predation on pets. Coyotes, being larger than foxes, can take adult cats as well as small dogs, which foxes would avoid.

Public attitude towards foxes seems to be neutral in the cities. In some cities, they are considered a pest and are controlled, usually by digging out dens when they are found. In other places, people leave food out for them and consider them an attraction. Even in

rural areas, where foxes have traditionally been considered a pest, farmers are starting to realize that the odd chicken or two is a small price to pay for the service the foxes do in keeping down the rodent population. In fact, foxes probably are known for stealing chickens simply because chickens are the right size, usually kept outside, and can't fly away. Even near farms, rodents will probably be at least two thirds of a fox's regular diet.

### **Interacting with wild foxes**

Use common sense. Do not approach a wild fox. Observe them from a distance -- there is a certain distance at which most wild foxes will tolerate people, and it is different for each fox.

Watching foxes can be very rewarding. If you have a zoom lens for your camera, you may be able to get some good pictures. More importantly, you may be able to get a glimpse into how foxes really live. Remember, though, that foxes already have the habit of moving from one den to another. If you disturb a den too much, the foxes may just move, and unless you see them moving, it is extremely difficult to find the den they've moved to.

[Feeding foxes](#) is tempting sometimes, but is usually not a good idea.

## **Town Offices Closed**

The Town of Kitty Hawk Administrative Offices will be closed on Monday, July 5th in observance of the Independence Day Holiday. The Town of Kitty Hawk wishes everyone a Safe and Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

## **Opportunities to Participate**

### **Town Council Meeting**

Tuesday, July 6, 2010 at 6 p.m.

### **Planning Board Meeting**

Thursday, July 8, 2010 at 6 p.m.

*(All Meetings to be held at Kitty Hawk Town Hall unless otherwise noted.)*